

May 18, 2004

TO: Members of the Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday, May 26, 2004 - 4:00 p.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 N. First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee is scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person, by videoconference, or by telephone conference call. As was discussed at the first meeting of the Committee, proxies would not be allowed. Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit their comments in writing, so that their view would always be a part of the process.

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Refreshments and a light dinner will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact me at (480) 350-8865, or Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
May 26, 2004**

		<u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1.	<u>Call to Order</u>	
2.	<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3.	<u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Transportation Policy Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Transportation Policy Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.	3. Information.
4.	<u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	4. Recommend approval of the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

*4A. <u>Approval of April 21, 2004 Meeting Minutes</u>	4A. Review and approve the April 21, 2004 meeting minutes.
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TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*4B. <u>Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for ADOT Highway Projects and a Maricopa County Job Access and Reverse Commute Project</u> The FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by the Regional Council on November 25, 2003. Since	4B. Recommend approval of an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to accelerate \$2,829,000 in NHS funds to acquire right-of-way for the Wickenburg By-pass project from FY 2005 to FY 2004, and to add a new phase of the Maricopa County Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program with \$3,234,705 in JARC funds in FY 2004.
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that time, ADOT has requested to accelerate \$2,829,000 in National Highway System (NHS) funds from their FY 2005 Wickenburg By-pass project to acquire right-of-way in FY 2004. In addition, Maricopa County has been awarded \$3,234,705 in Job Access and Reverse Commute funds to continue their program already in progress. It is necessary to amend the TIP to include these projects so that they may proceed to construction. All of the changes are regarded as exempt projects or are regarded as minor project revisions for which no air quality conformity is required and the consultation for this item is considered as a separate agenda item. The Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended approval of a TIP amendment for these projects. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*4C. Request to Change the Federal Functional Classification of a Town of Gila Bend Roadway and Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to Reprogram MAG Federal Funds on a Gila Bend Project

The Town of Gila Bend has requested to recognize Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street as a federally functionally classified Rural Major Collector Street. MAG approval is required in order for ADOT to proceed with classification of the facility. In addition, the Town of Gila Bend has requested to reprogram its Watermelon Road project, so that the \$188,600 in STP funding allocated to it is used to complete pedestrian improvements on Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street. An amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP is needed to accomplish this reprogramming. This change is regarded as an exempt project or is regarded as a minor project revision for which no air quality conformity is required and the consultation for this item is considered as a separate agenda item. The Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended approval of the change in functional classification and approval of a TIP amendment for this project. Please refer to the enclosed material.

4C. Recommend approval that Martin Avenue between Old Main Street and Stout Street in the Town of Gila Bend be recognized as a federally functionally classified Rural Major Collector Street. In addition, to recommend that the funds programmed for improvements to the Watermelon Road intersection be reprogrammed onto the Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street Pedestrian Improvements project and approve an Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to accomplish this change.

*4D. Citizen's Transportation Oversight Committee
2003 Annual Report

The Citizen's Transportation Oversight Committee (CTOC) 2003 Annual Report includes a summary of issues of special interest or concern to CTOC members, a summary of the statutory responsibilities that were carried out by CTOC in 2003, and an overview of the transportation programs that were reviewed and monitored by CTOC in 2003. Please refer to the enclosed material.

4D. Information.

AIR QUALITY ITEM

*4E. Conformity Consultation

MAG is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment includes an Arizona Department of Transportation request for a new right-of-way acquisition project for State Route 93 (Wickenburg By-pass) in FY 2004, and the addition of new federal Job Access and Reverse Commute funds for continuing a Maricopa County transit project in FY 2004. In addition, the Town of Gila Bend has requested a new pedestrian improvement project on Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street in FY 2005. The amendment includes new projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations and a minor project revision that does not require a conformity determination. Please refer to the enclosed material.

4E. For consultation.

ITEM PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

5. Proposed Changes to the Regional Transportation Plan

Valley Metro Rail has requested changes to the budget and schedule for completion of the light rail system. If approved through the MAG process, these changes would modify the Regional Transportation Plan that had been developed by the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) and certified by the MAG Regional Council on November 25, 2003. On April 21, 2004, the TPC reviewed the requested changes and recommended that the Regional Public Transportation Authority, the Arizona Department

5. As prescribed in A.R.S. 28-6308, approve, disapprove or further modify each proposed modification to the changes requested by Valley Metro Rail, based on the comments submitted by the agencies consulted.

Also, to direct staff to provide to each entity that has submitted comments on the requested changes, a written response within thirty days of this date, based on the discussions and vote by the TPC.

of Transportation, Maricopa County, Indian communities and cities and towns be consulted in accordance with State law. Written comments were requested by May 22, 2004, and will be provided to the TPC under separate cover. It is anticipated that comments received through the consultation process will be considered by the TPC, and staff will be directed to respond based on discussions and vote by the TPC. Please refer to the enclosed material.